



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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J. TYLER McCAULEY  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

March 1, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley   
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – CHILDHHELP  
VILLAGE, INCORPORATED - BEAUMONT, JOANN, BAKER AND  
JOHNSON GROUP HOMES**

We have completed a review of Beaumont, Joann, Baker and Johnson Group Homes (Group Home or Agency) operated by Childhelp Village, Incorporated. Each Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Beaumont Group Home is an 80-bed facility, which provides care for boys and girls ages 6-12 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Beaumont Group Home was providing services for six DCFS children, one privately placed child, thirty-three San Bernardino County children, fourteen Imperial County children, thirteen Riverside County children, four Santa Barbara County children, two Ventura County children, and one Orange County child.

Joann Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for boys ages 6-12 years who exhibit behavior, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Joann Group Home was providing services for one DCFS child and five Orange County children.

Baker Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for girls ages 6-12 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Baker Group Home was not providing services for any Los Angeles County children.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

Johnson Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for boys and girls ages 6-12 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Johnson Group Home was not providing services for any Los Angeles County children.

Beaumont Group Home is located in Riverside County.

Joann, Baker, and Johnson Group Homes are located in Orange County.

### **Scope of Review**

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection, and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

Additionally, since Baker and Johnson Group Homes were not providing services for any Los Angeles County children at the time of our visits, the monitoring review covered basic child safety and licensing issues, and included only a facility inspection.

### **Summary of Findings**

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. The Agency needs to address several deficient areas.

Beaumont and Joann Group Homes need to develop comprehensive Needs and Services Plans that include short and long term goals, maintain current authorizations for children taking psychotropic medication, and provide children with the required minimum weekly allowance.

Beaumont Group Home needs to clean the oven in cottages 1a and 3a, replace the caulk around the bathroom sinks in cottage 1a, and clean the bathroom in cottage 4b; assess all children for needed services within the first 30 days of placement, include the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plan, maintain current Needs and Services Plans, and maintain documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services as identified in the Needs and Services Plans; and encourage and assist children in creating and maintaining life books/photo albums, and provide children with the required minimum weekly allowance.

Joann Group Home needs to clean the bathroom floors, walls and bathtub; and repair or replace the refrigerator and freezer, and clean the stove and oven.

Baker Group Home needs to replace the missing filter and vent cover over the stove, clean the oven, and clean the bathtub and shower.

Johnson Group Home needs to maintain an adequate supply of silverware and replace the missing window screens.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

### **Review of Report**

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Mike Pirolo at (626) 293-1110.

JTM:MP:CC:bg

[http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group\\_home.asp](http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group_home.asp)

### **Attachments**

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS  
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer  
Diana Correa, Executive Director, Childhelp Village, Incorporated  
Public Information Office  
Audit Committee

**Childhelp Village, Incorporated  
Beaumont Group Home  
14700 Manzanita Park Road  
Beaumont, California 92223  
Phone: (951) 845-3155  
License Number: 330902381  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

**I. Facility and Environment**

**Method of assessment – Observation**

**Comments:**

Childhelp Beaumont Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

Overall, the interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the oven is dirty in cottages 1a and 3a. The caulk around the bathroom sinks is worn in cottage 1a and the bathroom is dirty in cottage 4b.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

**Recommendations**

**1. Childhelp Group Home management:**

- a. Clean the oven in cottages 1a and 3a.**
- b. Replace the caulk around the bathroom sinks in cottage 1a.**
- c. Clean the bathroom in cottage 4b.**

## **II. Program Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Six**

**Comments:**

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. However, one child was not assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team is not included in the development or implementation of the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs). The NSPs are not current, comprehensive, and do not include short and long term goals.

Case files do not reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services as identified in the NSPs.

### **Recommendations**

#### **2. Childhelp Group Home management:**

- a. Assess all children for needed services within the first 30 days of placement.**
- b. Include the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans.**
- c. Maintain current Needs and Services Plans.**
- d. Develop comprehensive Needs and Services Plans that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, time limited and include short and long term goals.**
- e. Maintain adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services as identified in the Needs and Services Plans.**

## **III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Six**

**Comments:**

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and

resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

Children are too young to participate in emancipation and vocational programs.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Six**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities.

Children participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

Documentation confirms that children are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist. However, two children do not have current court authorizations for the psychotropic medications that they are taking.

Children are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

### **Recommendation**

- 3. Childhelp Group Home management maintain current court authorizations for all children taking psychotropic medication.**

### **VI. Personal Rights**

#### **Method of assessment – Interviews with children**

**Sample size: Six**

#### **Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are able to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail, and have private visitors. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

### **VII. Clothing and Allowance**

#### **Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Six**

#### **Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

Children spend their allowances as they choose. However, the Group Home does not provide children with the required minimum weekly allowance.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items.

Children are not encouraged or assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

**Recommendations**

**4. Childhelp Group Home management:**

- a. Provide children with the required minimum weekly allowance.**
- b. Encourage and assist children in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.**

**Childhelp Village, Incorporated  
Joann Group Home  
250 Joann Street  
Costa Mesa, California 92626  
Phone: (714) 754-7861  
License Number: 306000902  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

## **I. Facility and Environment**

### **Method of assessment – Observation**

#### **Comments:**

Childhelp Joann Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

Overall the interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the bathroom walls, floor, and bathtub are not clean. The refrigerator and freezer have missing shelves, the freezer door is broken, and the stove and oven are dirty.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

### **Recommendations**

#### **1. Childhelp Group Home management:**

- a. Clean the walls, floor, and bathtub in the bathroom.**
- b. Repair or replace the refrigerator and freezer.**
- c. Clean the stove and oven.**

## **II. Program Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: One**

**Comments:**

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team develops and implements the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) with input from the child. The NSPs are current; however, they are not comprehensive, and do not include short and long term goals.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

**Recommendation**

- 2. Childhelp Group Home management develop Needs and Services Plans that are comprehensive and include short and long term goals.**

## **III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: One**

**Comments:**

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

The child is too young to participate in emancipation and vocational programs.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

#### **Recommendation**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

Documentation confirms that the child is routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist. However, the child does not have a current court authorization for the psychotropic medication that he is taking.

Children are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

#### **Recommendation**

- 3. Childhelp Group Home management maintain current court authorizations for the child taking psychotropic medication.**

#### **VI. Personal Rights**

**Method of assessment – Interviews with children**

**Sample size: One**

**Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. The child reports that he feels safe in the Group Home and is provided with appropriate staff supervision. The child express satisfaction with the quality of his interactions with staff and reports that the staff treats him with respect and dignity.

The child reports that he is assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are able to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail, and have private visitors. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

The child reports that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

The child reports satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VII. Clothing and Allowance****Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

Children spend their allowances as they choose. However, the Group Home does not provide children with the required minimum weekly allowance.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items.

Children are not encouraged or assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

**Recommendation**

- 4. Childhelp Group Home management:**
  - a. Provide children with the required minimum weekly allowance.**
  - b. Encourage and assist children in creating and maintaining life books/photo albums.**

**Childhelp Village, Incorporated  
Baker Group Home  
1597 Baker Street  
Costa Mesa, California 92626  
Phone: (714) 435-7940  
License Number: 306000509  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

## **I. Facility and Environment**

### **Method of assessment – Observation**

#### **Comments:**

Childhelp Baker Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

Overall, the interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the kitchen stove filter and vent cover is missing and the oven is dirty. The bathtub and shower have a buildup of mildew and dirt.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

### **Recommendations**

#### **1. Childhelp Group Home management:**

- a. Replace the missing filter and vent cover over the stove.**
- b. Clean the oven.**
- c. Clean the bathtub and shower.**

**Childhelp Village, Incorporated  
Johnson Group Home  
3068 Johnson Street  
Costa Mesa, California 92626  
Phone: (714) 545-0644  
License Number: 306000901  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

## **I. Facility and Environment**

### **Method of assessment – Observation**

#### **Comments:**

Childhelp Johnson Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped. However, there are several missing window screens on the exterior of the Group Home.

Overall the interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, there is an inadequate supply of silverware.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

### **Recommendations**

#### **2. Childhelp Group Home management:**

- a. Replace missing window screens as needed.**
- b. Maintain an adequate supply of silverware.**

To: Candace Rhue, Group Home Audit Supervisor  
Date: November 20, 2006  
Subject: County Of Los Angeles, Department of Auditor-Controller  
From: Diana Correa, Director of Program Operations-CA.  
Village of Childhelp West



Section I. Facility and Environment:

1. Childhelp Beaumont Group Home management:

- a. **Ovens in cottages 1a and 3a. are clean.**
- b. **Caulking surrounding the bathroom sinks in cottage 1a. are repaired.**
- c. **Bathroom in cottage 4b is clean & sanitize. We purchased Citrace Hospital Germicide sprays to sanitize & absorb odor.**
  - **Ms. Williams, housekeeper cleans bathrooms daily**
  - **Caulking surrounding sink was recaulked in cottage 1a.**

Physical Plant maintenance and cleanliness is supervised by Sigrid Gentry, Maintenance Supervisor, and Lizz Pate, Program Manager and Cottage Supervisors.

Section II. Program Services

2. Childhelp Beaumont Group Home Services:

- a. Assess all children for Needs & Services within the first 30 days of placement.  
**All children upon placement are assess and a Needs & Services plan are now developed within 30 days of placement.**
- b. Include the treatment team in the development and implementation of the the Needs & Service Plan:  
**Treatment Team will develop and implement the Needs & Service Plans (Including the participation of the child, placing social worker, & parent when possible).**
- c. Maintain current Needs & Service Plans.  
**Needs & Service Plans will be reviewed and maintained as required.**
- d. Develop comprehensive Needs & Service Plans that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, time limited and include short and long term goals.  
**Comprehensive Needs & Service Plans will be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, time limited and with short and long term goals.**  
\* Clinical Director, Joe Narvid will be responsible to assure that the Social Worker assess children upon placement, develop, implement and maintain current Needs and Service Plan.

Section V. Psychotropic Medication

Every child on Psychotropic medications has authorizations signed by a judge. This will be monitored by our LVN, Pandora Robbins.

Section VII. Clothing and Allowance

4. Chilhelp Beaumont Group Home management:

**a. Will provide children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Distribution of allowances will be monitored by Program Manager, Lizz Pate on a weekly basis.**

**b. We will encourage and assist children in creating and maintaining life books/photo albums. This will be supervised and monitored by Cottage Supervisors & Program Manager, Lizz Pate.**

To: Candace Rhuc, Group Home Audit Supervisor  
Date: November 20, 2006  
Subject: County Of Los Angeles, Department of Auditor-Controller  
From: Diana Correa, Director of Program Operations-CA.  
Omika Jackson, Program Manager- Orange County Group Homes  
Re: Joann House

Section I. Facility and Environment:

1. Childhelp Orange County Group Home management:

a. **Clean the bath tub, walls, and floor in the bathroom**

- The bath tub, walls and the floor are clean and have been sanitized. The bathrooms are cleaned on a daily basis by the night care staff and monitored by the group home supervisors (Stephanie Daniels, Heather Michelson and June Yato).

b. **Replace the refrigerator.**

- A new refrigerator has been purchased (receipt attached).

c. **Clean the stove and oven.**

- The stove and oven are cleaned nightly by the night care staff and monitored by the supervisor (Stephanie Daniels, Heather Michelson and June Yato). (pictures attached).

Physical Plant Maintenance and cleanliness is supervised by Omika Jackson, Group Home Program Manager (Administrator) and House Supervisors.

Section II. Program Services

1. Childhelp Orange County Group Home Services:

a. **Childhelp Joann Group Home management provides Needs and Services Plans that are comprehensive and include short and long term goals.**

- All children are assessed upon placement and a Needs and Service Plan is developed within 30 days of placement. The development of Needs and Services Plan is supervised by therapist, Gail Price.

Section V. Psychotropic Medication

1. Childhelp Orange County Group Home Services:

a. **Childhelp Joann Group Home management needs to maintain current court authorizations for children taking psychotropic medication.**

- Every child on psychotropic medication has authorization signed by the judge unless they are a voluntary placement and their parent(s) will provide signed consent. Psychotropic medication authorization is monitored by LVN, Pandora Robbins and the group home supervisors.

Section VII. Clothing and Allowance

1. Childhelp Orange County Group Home Services:

a. **Provide children with the required minimum weekly allowance.**

- The minimum weekly allowance is given to all children.

The minimum weekly allowance given to the children will be supervised by Omika Jackson, Group Home Program Manager (Administrator) and the House Supervisors.

b. **Encourage and assist children in creating and maintaining a life book/photo album.**

- Life book/photo albums have been given to all the children to create and maintain. This will be monitored by the Recreational staff, Porsha Draper and the house supervisors.

This will be supervised by Omika Jackson, Group Home Program Manager (Administrator).

To: Candace Rhue, Group Home Audit Supervisor  
Date: November 20, 2006  
Subject: County Of Los Angeles, Department of Auditor-Controller  
From: Diana Correa, Director of Program Operations-CA.  
Omika Jackson, Program Manager- Orange County Group Homes  
Re: Baker House

**Section I. Facility and Environment:**

1. Childhelp Orange County Group Home management:
  - a. **Replace the missing filter and vent cover over the stove.**
    - Filter and vent cover was installed (picture attached).
  - b. **Clean the oven.**
    - The stove has been cleaned and is to be cleaned nightly by the night care staff and monitored by the house supervisor (Heather Michelson). (Picture attached)
  - c. **Clean around the bath tub and shower.**
    - Around the bath tub and shower have been cleaned and will be cleaned daily by the night care staff and monitored by the house supervisor (Heather Michelson). (picture attached)

Physical Plant maintenance and cleanliness is supervised by Omika Jackson, Group Home Program Manager (Administrator), and House Supervisors.

To: Candace Rhue, Group Home Audit Supervisor  
Date: November 20, 2006  
Subject: County of Los Angeles, Department of Auditor-Controller  
From: Diana Correa, Director of Program Operations-CA.  
Omika Jackson, Program Manager- Orange County Group Homes  
Re: Johnson House

**Section I. Facility and Environment:**

**1. Childhelp Orange County Group Home management:**

**a. Replace the missing window screens.**

- All the missing window screens around the exterior of the home have been replaced. Attached are pictures of the exterior house with screens on the windows.

**b. Obtain an adequate supply of silverware.**

- An adequate supply of silverware is available. An adequate supply was on site; however, it was locked up in a separate cabinet. (Attached is a picture of the silverware.)

Physical Plant maintenance is supervised by Omika Jackson, Group Home Program Manager (Administrator) and House Supervisors.